

## Message Text

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ACTION NEA-11

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-01 INR-10  
L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 SP-02 SS-15 ICA-11  
SSM-03 IO-13 ACDA-12 OMB-01 TRSE-00 EUR-12 HA-05  
/111 W

-----043187 140558Z /14

R 131911Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0279  
INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA  
AMEMBASSY AMMAN  
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS  
AMCONSUL JERUSALEM  
USMISSION SINAI  
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

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E.O. 11652: NA  
TAGS: PEPR EG IS US  
SUBJECT: PRESS TREATMENT OF ISRAELI NON-RESPONSE TO  
- AMERICAN QUESTIONS

SUMMARY. ISRAELI CABINET NON-RESPONSE TO U.S. QUESTIONS  
CARRIED PROMINENTLY IN PRESS AND ADDS TO EGYPTIAN  
PESSIMISM ABOUT ISRAELI "STALLING" AND "LACK OF SINCERI-  
TY". DIFFERENCES AMONG ISRAELI MINISTERS ALSO PLAYED  
UP TOGETHER WITH LONDON REPORT OF BEGIN'S POOR HEALTH.  
FERMENT AND BAD NEWS OUT OF ISRAEL CONTINUING TO BE  
USED (AND EXAGGERATED) APPARENTLY TO ASSURE PUBLIC ISRAELI  
INTRANSIGENCE WILL SOON BE OVERCOME. END SUMMARY.

1. AHRAH JUNE 13 CARRIES NEWS AGENCIES' REPORT THAT  
ISRAELI CABINET DID NOT REACH AGREEMENT ON ANSWERS TO  
AMERICAN QUESTIONS REGARDING FUTURE OF WEST BANK AND  
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GAZA AND ISRAEL'S "VISUALIZATION OF HOW PALESTINIANS  
COULD PARTICIPATE IN DETERMINING THEIR FUTURE". "INFORMED  
SOURCES" CONFIRMED THAT GOI COULD NOT REACH AGREEMENT  
BECAUSE "LARGE NUMBER OF MINISTERS", INCLUDING DAYAN AND  
WEIZMAN, DID NOT AGREE WITH BEGIN PROPOSAL.

2. DAYAN'S AND WEIZMAN'S DISAGREEMENT WITH BEGIN PLAN

WAS HIGHLIGHTED IN AHRAH'S LEAD. WEIZMAN PORTRAYED AS HAVING PRESENTED PROPOSAL DURING MEETING BASED ON NECESSITY AND IMPORTANCE OF RESUMING NEGOTIATIONS WITH EGYPT. ALSO HIGHLIGHTED WAS CONCERN IN ISRAEL THAT U.S. MAY IMPOSE EMBARGO ON ARMS SHIPMENTS FOR "12 OR 18 MONTHS".

3. BEGIN'S HEALTH. AHRAH ALSO CARRIED FRONT-PAGE ARTICLE BASED ON LONDON "EVENING NEWS" ACCOUNT, THAT

BEGIN IS SERIOUSLY ILL AND "HE MAY NOT REMAIN IN HIS OFFICE". ACCORDING TO LONDON PAPER, PEOPLE WHO MET BEGIN IN KNESSET LAST WEEK THOUGHT THEY WERE "SHAKING HAND OF DEAD MAN". LATER IN STORY THERE MENTION THAT BEGIN SUFFERS FROM DEPRESSIONS (AMONG OTHER THINGS) AND THAT THESE BECAME DEEP AFTER BEGIN'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CARTER LAST MARCH.

4. FAILURE ISRAELI CABINET RESPOND TO QUESTIONS HAVE DISTURBED EGYPTIANS AND GENERATED FURTHER PRIVATE EXPRESSIONS TO EMBOFFS OF PESSIMISM ABOUT ISRAELI "STALLING" AND LACK OF SINCERITY.

5. COMMENT: MEDIA CONTINUING TO CONCENTRATE (AND EXAGGERATE) DIFFERENCES WITHIN GOI AND SUCH BAD NEWS AS BEGIN'S STATE OF HEALTH APPARENTLY TO ASSURE PUBLIC THAT ISRAELI "INTRANSIGENCE" WILL SOON BE OVERCOME. EILTS

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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**Concepts:** CABINET, PRESS COMMENTS, DIPLOMATIC REPRESENTATIONS  
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**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
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